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Chronology of Neuropathy

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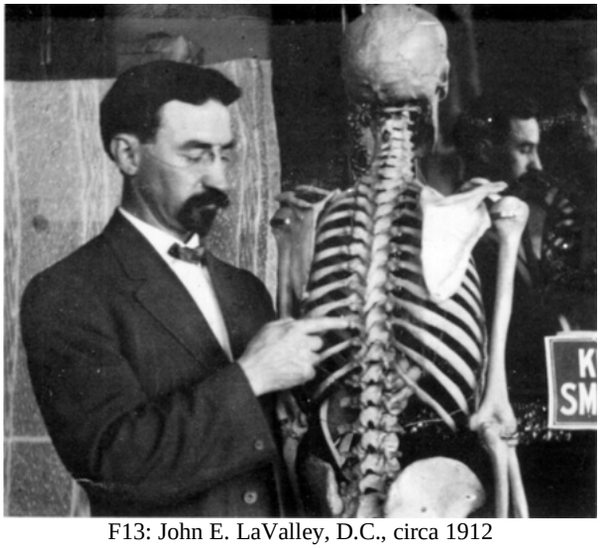
Color Code:
Green: for emphasis
Red: questionable or uncertain information

1909 (Feb): **AP Davis** MD, DO, DC moves to **Baker City OR**, stays until Feb 1910, takes adjustments from DD for cataracts during 1909; writes *Neuropathy*; was possibly affiliated with the **Oregon Peerless College of Chiropractic and Neuropathy** in Portland OR (Zarbuck, 1988b), renamed by John E. LaValley, D.C. from the former D.D. Palmer College of Chiropractic

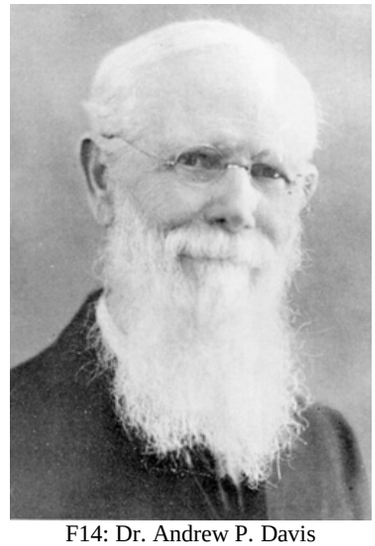
PHOTOGRAPH



F13: John E. LaValley, D.C., circa 1912

1911 (Fall): AP Davis is operating the Bullis & Davis School of Neuropathy, Ophthalmology and Chiropractic at 154 W. 23rd St, Los Angeles (Zarbuck, 1988b)

PHOTOGRAPH



F14: Dr. Andrew P. Davis

1946: Thomas T. Lake, N.D., D.C. authors ***Treatment by Neuropathy and The Encyclopedia of Physical and Manipulative Therapeutics*** (Herb Lee's collection); includes (pp. 1-4):

Chapter I
HISTORY OF NEUROPATHY

Neuropathy is an evolution from many antecedent evolutions of drugless therapy manipulations. The immediate antecedent of Neuropathy was Mechano Neural Therapy. The other antecedents date back as far as Herodicus in the 5th century, who advocated exercise for the treatment of disease and compelled his patients to have their bodies rubbed, and also was the first to lay down principles for rational, mechanical methods of treatment. From that time, on down through history, Herodotus, Plato, Socrates and Hippocrates and many others gave various principles and explanations of how to give manipulations and what was accomplished by the manipulations. For illustration, Hippocrates said "Rubbing can bind a joint that is too loose, and loosen a joint that is too rigid. Hard rubbing binds, soft rubbing loosens, much rubbing causes parts to waste, moderate rubbing makes them grow." This was the first time that information had been given regarding the various effects of different types of manipulation. From that time on until today, there has been accumulated a vast data on the effects of peripheral manipulation, and from these early investigators the groundwork was laid for the development of manipulation and physical therapy as a science and an art. Around the turn of the 19th century individual physicians in America began to pay some attention to what the ancients had for centuries been saying about peripheral manipulation and the great contribution made by these 19th century investigators was, first, the classification of nerve and physiological impulses set up by the methods of manipulation, vibration or instruments used on the body.

Second, the classification of the nerve segments corresponding to the organs or tissues in which there was a physiological malfunction or a pathological condition.

Third, the classification of the rate or mode of manual application or instrument to the body according to the physiological or pathological condition.

Neuropathy was one of the sciences created out of all these researches and investigations. It was created for two great purposes: First, as an aid to medicine, which at that early day was not accomplishing for the sick what was required of it. Second, to eliminate all the harsh and rough treatments that were complained of by patients, and at the same time be effective in bringing about beneficial results to the patient. Among those who stand out as having contributed the greatest of value to Neuropathy as we know it today are Albert Abrams, M.D., Edgar M. Cyriax, M.D., John Arnold, M.D. and W. Wallace Fritz, M.D. Albert Abrams, M.D. contributed much to the foundation by his tabulation of the reflex centers, whereby organs and tissues could be contracted or dilated at will, by concussion or pressure on nerve segments, that had the desired action on the circulations. Cyriax's studies and work, "The Elements of Kellgren's Manual Treatment," also collected papers dealing with the lymphatic system, completed what was necessary for John Arnold, M.D., to form what he termed Mechano Neural Therapy. Dr. Arnold was Professor of Histology in the School of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania. For five years he carried on his research work before writing or lecturing on his findings. Arnold did not write any books, but some articles are left that stated his philosophy and technique, also a "Table of Viscero Motor Neurons" appended to his article in the *Medical News* of March 18, 1905, under the title "The Importance of the Back in General Diagnosis." Arnold's theory was that repeated brief pressure along the spinal column arouses the reflex constrictor nerves, and brings about a certain amount of contraction in the blood vessels of the skin and muscles of the back in the region of the back treated, and also at the same time produces a certain amount of dilation of the vessels of the cord. On the other hand, continuous hard pressure along the spine arouses the reflex dilators and brings about a certain amount of dilation of the blood vessels in the skin and muscles of the back and a corresponding contraction of the blood vessels of the cord, and by the changes in the spinal cord impulses are sent to the blood vessels, and through the action on circulation in these vessels a healthful condition is brought about in the nerves, then circulations, organs and tissues. Arnold's method of diagnosis was by pressure in the grooves of the spinal column, for he claimed that the areas of vertebral tenderness corresponded with the vaso motor segments of the spinal cord and that there exists a compensatory relationship between the spinal segments of the cord and the blood vessels leading to the various organs and tissues. (Arnold: "Some Principles of Manual Therapy – New York and Philadelphia Medical journal, May 13, 1905.") Arnold offered to incorporate his work in to the curriculum of several medical schools, which offer was rejected. His insistence on teaching this therapy led to his severance with all medical schools and to the founding of The College of Mechano Neural Therapy in Trenton, New Jersey. Numerous medical practitioners became interested in the subject and subscribed to its teachings. Havard relates that the school was removed to Atlantic City, New Jersey, and for a time the college could not supply the demand for its graduates, then in 1904 it was moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in order to have better facilities. But opposition by the medical fraternity made the progress of the college very hard, and Arnold went back into private practice. In the year 1907 the name of the college was changed to "The American College of Neuropathy" and became the property of the Alumni Association. W. Wallace Fritz, M.D., N.D., D.D.S., D.O. was elected Dean and through his studies and endeavors the school up until 1919 was one of the foremost Drugless Therapy colleges in the country. Fritz not only originated the name "Neuropathy" but contributed to changing the philosophy, pathology and method of examination and diagnosis and gave Neuropathy an almost complete new meaning.

The Philadelphia College of Neuropathy, organized in 1922 by the writer, followed the pattern of the American College of Neuropathy, but broadened its teachings in many aspects. IT was under rather unfortunate circumstances that both schools were forced to close. The American College of Neuropathy was struck a mortal blow by World War I, when nearly the whole student body left for the Service. In after years it was impossible to recover because of the large number of short-term Drugless Therapeutic schools which opened all over the country, some giving degrees for even a few months' attendance, whereas these Colleges of Neuropathy required full four-year course with dissection and other laboratory requirements. The competition of short-term schools was too great, and the American College of Neuropathy is only a memory, while the Philadelphia College of Neuropathy has been turned into a Post Graduate School.

There have been attempts by various physicians and schools to lay claim to having founded Neuropathy. But even a cursory reading of their notes or books will reveal there is nothing in common in their philosophy, terminology and practice, with the original authenticated and accepted Neuropathy of the American College of Neuropathy since 1907.

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Neuropathy Illustrated

The Philosophy and Practical Application of Drugless Healing

Andrew P. Davis, M.D., N.D., D.O., D.C., OPH.D.

1915

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Andrew P. Davis is of Scotch-Irish extraction; born in Belfast, New York, in 1835; reared in Indiana from his fifth year; educated in the common schools and in Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana; studied, first: the Botanic System of practice; the Thompsonian; the Eclectic; graduated in Rush Medical College in 1866-67; Pulte Homeopathic College in 1877; took a Post Graduate Course in New York, in Homoeopathy and Ophthalmology in 1880; graduated in Orificial Surgery under Prof. E. H. Pratt; studied and graduated in Osteopathy in 1893 and 1894; in Chiropractic in 1898. Wrote three books "Osteopathy Illustrated," "Neurology," and lastly "Neuropathy." He has the distinction of having the first place in the first Osteopathic School - has kept abreast of the times in all advanced thought from every source. He has the endowment of an energy that knows no defeat nor stopping place, in his search for Truth, for the amelioration of suffering humanity. For this reason he has surmounted every obstacle thus far; and in the application of the sciences he has mastered, has but few equals, perhaps no superiors. Now, at an age beyond the ordinary, is active, with all of his mental faculties seemingly in as good condition as, if not better than, at any time in his life. He bears the distinction of being the head and front of physical manipulators. As a teacher of the Drugless Healing Sciences, has filled many places of distinction. As a teacher and practitioner throughout the United States, has treated creditably and satisfactorily all the afflicted with whom he has come in contact, or dealt with. His career in Los Angeles is one of extreme activity, having a large and lucrative practice, which is increasing as the days go by. To be acquainted with him and know him is a source of gratification. His friends may be counted by thousands. His moral character is beyond reproach; his reputation is world-wide as an Author and Practitioner. To be treated by him is indeed a satisfaction and productive of good results.

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